Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting Regulations — McCormack





Hunting is permitted in accordance with all applicable State regulations (see www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/) and special refuge regulations.

Open to Hunting – Goose, duck, coot, snipe, all upland game birds and deer.

Deer Hunting - Deer hunting is allowed with a special permit issued by Oregon State. These permits allow the the use of muzzleloader or shotgun, depending on the special permit successfully drawn, in accordance with state law. The permit specifies the dates of the hunt. The use of lead slugs is okay.

Closed to Hunting – All other species of wildlife not listed are protected. Examples include elk, bear, snakes, raven, crow, coyote, doves, turkey and rabbits.

Days – Hunting waterfowl and upland game birds is allowed on Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays, Thanksgiving Day and New Year's Day.

Hours – The refuge is open for hunting access from 1-1/2 hours before legal hunting time to 1-1/2 hours after legal hunting time. Upland game birds may only be hunted from 12:00 noon until the close of state hunting hours.

Firearms, Ammunition & Shell Limits – Only shotguns are permitted. Only federally approved non-toxic shot may be used or possessed. Hunters are limited to the use or possession of 25 shells per day.

 $\it General Public Entry$ – For non-hunters, the refuge is open to the public 7 days a week, from sunrise to sunset.

Vehicle Travel and Parking – All vehicles, including bicycles, are restricted to designated motorized routes of travel and parking areas (see map). Trails lead from each parking lot to blind sites.

Boats – Only non-motorized watercraft (including boats, layout-type vessels and float tubes) may be used for hunting and only to set decoys and retrieve downed birds. Watercraft may not be hunted from or used to access hunting locations.

Dogs – Dogs must be kept on leashes, except during the lawful pursuit of game during legal seasons.

Hunter Check Station & Procedures

Hunting Lotteries, Fees and Youth Hunt – Details can be found online at www.fws.gov/mcriver/regulations/ or at the Hunter Check Station. Lottery selection is required to hunt upland birds on the first two weekends. Persons 17 years old and younger do not have to pay a fee.

Using Lottery Picks – Waterfowl and game bird lottery winners must be present the day of the hunt, must have the corresponding hunting license and must hunt the entire time the blind is in use (waterfowl hunters). If the lottery winner leaves, the guest(s) must leave or follow standby procedures.

Permits - Waterfowl and upland game bird hunters are required to possess and carry a special refuge permit; permits for waterfowl are obtained at the Hunter Check Station prior to hunting. A maximum of 15 game bird permits will be issued each day; game bird permit holders are allowed one guest.

Check Station Location and Hours - The Hunter Check Station is located on Paterson Ferry Road (see map) and is staffed 1-1/2 hours before legal hunting time until 8:00 a.m. and from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

<code>Check In - Prior</code> to hunting, all hunters must check-in at the Hunter Check Station to obtain a refuge permit, pay the recreation user fee, and obtain a blind assignment. Lottery selection holders must be present 1-1/2 hours before legal hunting time. After that, they will become standby hunters.

Blind Selection – Blind selection begins 1-1/2 hours before legal hunting time.

Standby Hunting – After lottery hunters have selected their blinds, standby hunters will select the remaining blind sites via a random drawing. Afternoon hunting blinds are also assigned via a drawing.

Check Out – Hunters are required to check out at the Hunter Check Station before switching blinds, hunting upland game, or leaving the refuge. Check-out must be no later than 1-1/2 hour after the close of State hunting hours. If the Hunter Check Station is closed, hunters should drop their permit gards into the drop box. cards into the drop box.

Blind Occupancy – A maximum of three persons of any age are permitted per blind.

McCormack Slough & Columbia River Blinds – All waterfowl hunting must take place from designated blind sites; hunters must remain within 100 feet of the blind or numbered stake, unless retrieving birds or setting decoys. For river blinds, if the water recedes, hunters are allowed to position directly in front of the blind or numbered stake, and the rules above will apply from that location.

Field/Pit Blinds – These blinds are located in agricultural areas and change according to crop management. Hunters may hunt away from pit hunt blinds using portable blinds at distances approved by refuge staff. Temporary blinds may be constructed of non-living natural materials but must be available for ground use on a first some first sorved basis. available for general use on a first-come, first-served basis. Desert hunting sites are available as free-roam access within two designated zones, #60 and #61.

Disabled Hunter Blinds – Blind #C1 is designated for hunters with disabilities. Blind #13 provides improved access to hunters with disabilities. Persons with disabilities should hunt with a partner.

Selected Prohibited Activities

- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting
- Baiting of any wildlife, trapping, or netting

- Horseback riding
- Overnight camping or parking
- Littering (including empty shotgun hulls)
 Use of ATVs and other off-road vehicles
- Commercial guiding for hunting

- Abandoning, discarding, or leaving personal property
 Target shooting
 Collecting of plants, animals, antlers, or other materials

Contact Information

Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge 72650 Riverview Lane Irrigon, OR 97844 541/922-4661 www.fws.gov/mcriver/regulations Hunter Hotline: 541/922-HUNT (4868)

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